REMARKS

Claim 2 has been amended to include the limitations previously presented in the

combination of claims 2, 5 and 15. Claim 12 has been amended to correct the typographical

error. Certain dependent claims have been amended so as to depend from non-canceled claims.

The previously withdrawn claims have been canceled. Formal drawings are provided herein.

The only rejection directed to original claim 15 is the obviousness-type double patenting

rejection based on Applicant's own patent (Cardoso '712). A terminal disclaimer is provided

concurrently with this response, thereby overcoming the rejection, as the conflicting patent is

commonly owned along with this application.

Given that claim 2 as amended is now the equivalent of original claim 15 rewritten to

include all the intervening claims and the base claim, it is submitted that claim 2 as amended is

now allowable, and therefore the remaining dependent claims, all of which relate back to claim

2, are likewise allowable.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims as presented are patentable, on the basis of the

above remarks, and reconsideration and subsequent passage for allowance is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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